

No. 175.

June, 1973.

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Club's Address - G.P.O. Box 68A, Hobart, 7001.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 21st,
at 7.45.p.m.
in the Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum.

SPEAKER

Dr. E. Guiler.

SUBJECT

"Whales, Dolphins and Things".

OUTING

Leader - Mr. L.E.Wall

Object - to look for the tree Senecio (Senecio
centropappus F.Muell. -Centropappus
Brunonis Hook.f.)

This is a Tasmanian endemic, and has been listed
as occurring on Mt. Wellington, and Mount
Dromedary. We think it has been seen on
Mt. Faulkner so this is where we will go.

It has been listed in "The Endemic Flora
of Tasmania" Part II as No. XXXVII -
Senecio Brunonis (Hook.f.) J.H. Willis.

(an example of how names change as our
classification becomes more precise)

It is featured on the Jacket of that Part.
Meet - By the Prince Theatre at 10.a.m.
Date - (Note) SUNDAY June 24th.

LIBRARY

The Treasurer will buy "Insects of the World"
and with consultation with the Librarian, will
spend any donation money left over on some
other book of reference needed by the Club.

PEREGRINE FALCONS

The Bird Observers Association of Tasmania would
like to gather all available information on these
falcons. Would any member who sees any Peregrine
Please let Mr. Wall know?

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1973

Some members have not renewed their subscriptions for 1973 - and our year is half over! This could easily be a slip of the memory, for all members having the interest of the Club at heart would gladly pay up!

If we have no record of your 1973 sub there will be a cross here.

.....

... and the treasurer would be glad to receive your remittance...

G.P.O. Box 68A, Hobart, 7001

Single - \$3.00 Family - \$4.00 Junior - \$1.50

NOTES FROM COMMITTEE MEETING June 6th.

It was decided to register, as a Conservation Body, with the Tasmanian Environment Centre, and to make them a Club donation of \$5.00 towards their expenses. We will then receive any notices from the National Environment Council.

Editor of the Tasmanian Naturalist would be pleased to receive articles on subjects other than birds.

It is proposed to hold the 1974 Easter Camp at Maria Island. The President will make early reservation of a building for shelter and is sure he can arrange transport of our 'heavy' gear from the wharf to the campsite.

The Club will buy some box files to house the various newsletters from Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Clubs, so that these will be easily available to members. These newsletters, besides giving notices of their Club's activities, contain much valuable information of various localities.

NEW MEMBERS - welcome to Mr. Holderness-Roddam and to Mrs. Gurney,

Items culled from other Newsletters.

From Devonport's Nats News-

Cure for Starlings.

Township of Dubbo, N.S.W., had been troubled by flocks of starlings perching on and nesting around the Town Hall. All efforts to remove them failed: the Fire Brigade was called in to 'hose them down' which scared them off temporarily. They returned and settled in again, that is, until Anzac Day - when the Highland Band marched in to take part in the ceremonies, and the Bagpipes wailed out "The Lament" - the Starlings rose in one black mass, took to the air, and haven't been seen since! (Apologiea to any Scottish Readers).

... Teacher - What are the seasons of theyear?
Bright small child - Miss! - Wattle Bird, Duck,
Kangaroo, Possum.....

From 'Langana' (L.W.C.)

FIRST ROCK BOWLERS

Nowadays with A.P.P.M. Forest roads and fire breaks it takes just a little over half an hour to climb St. Valentines Peak, but not so 146 years ago when Henry Hellyer climbed the Peak on St. Valentines Day, 1827.

The following is an extract from Hellyer's report reprinted in facsimile edition of James Bischoff's "History of Van Diemen's Land".

"The morning of the 15th (Feb 1827) was fortunately very clear and serene: there was not a cloud to be seen. We again, toiled up the mountain with our loads, not knowing which way it would be most desirable to go on. After getting to the top, we were several hours struggling through thick scrub and wireweed, and climbing over immense masses of rock: the scrub was dripping wet from the heavy rain which had fallen in the night. We at length arrived upon the very highest point, 3000 feet above sea level. I found the stump of a withered box tree and cut upon it "St. Valentine's Peak", the date of my ascent etc., which I drove into the cleft of the rocks at the top with its roots in the air. The men rolled off some huge blocks of rock, which in their fall appeared to smoke, from the splinters which flew off, as they struck and rebounded from one massive projection down to another".

NATUREAMA 1973

On Friday and Saturday, June 8th and 9th, the Launceston Field Naturalists' Club brought to Hobart a fine slide show, with commentary, featuring Nature in Tasmania.

Flowers, trees, birds, frogs, lizards, insects, spiders, animals, marine life - they were all there. Added to this was a comprehensive collection of views from all parts of Tasmania, including coastal scenes, Lake Pedder(as it was), the South West, and Precipitous Bluff (will this be our next loss? or gain?).

It ended with an appeal to one and all to work for the conservation of our many beautiful and unique areas.

"It is later than you think - and Time is not on our side".

Thankyou, Mr. Simmons, for a most enjoyable show.

OUTING → May 19th, 1973.

Leader, Mr. Hewer.

Four carloads of Field Nats left the Prince at 10.a.m. bound for Primrose Sands and Carlton.

At Primrose Sands our chief interest was in swamps, where several frogs were found, and old chrysalises on gahnia plants. We then proceeded to Carlton where we parked by the road not very far from "The Island". After lunch we picked our way across rather swampy land in order to investigate various old logs up on the hillside. By turning these over, a variety of 'wogs' were found. Spiders found included the "tailed spider" which was found by a curled leaf in its web, near its eggsac. There were several patches of Mosquito Orchids, (Acianthus exsertus), some of which were in flower. One lizard found was the metallic skink.

Our trek concluded with a walk round the island. On the sands by the lagoon were a few dozen dotterels - redheads and banded. We saw also a number of pied oyster-catchers, Yellow Wattle Birds, Green Rosellas, a robin, and White-faced Heron. The day was cloudy, with a cool wind, and a little rain, but our lunchspot was quite sheltered by some banksia trees, and now and again the sun shone through. Thankyou Mr. Hewer for a good outing.